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SIPDIS

DEPT FOR ISN/MTR (JP.HERRMANN) AND EUR/CE (Y.SAINT-ANDRE)

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/20/2034
TAGS: [PARM](#) [MNUC](#) [PREL](#) [ETTC](#) [SY](#) [SZ](#)
SUBJECT: QUARTZCOM: CONCERN ABOUT SWISS FIRM'S ENGAGEMENT
WITH SYRIAN ENTITY

REF: STATE 115194

Classified By: Poloff Chris Buck; reasons 1.4(b), (c), and (d).

11. (S) Poloff delivered the reftel non-paper on November 10 to Pierre-Andre Farine, Acting Director of the Export Controls Section, Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO). Farine thanked poloff for the information and undertook to look into the matter.

12. (S) On November 20, Juergen Boehler, Director of SECO's Export Controls Section, informed poloff that SECO shares USG concerns about the Syrian entity noted in the reftel non-paper, and would not approve any shipments of quartz oscillators to it. He said that he had been in touch with Quartzcom's head manager, warning him not to proceed with any transactions with Syrian entities. According to Boehler, the manager currently is on business travel in Asia. SECO has requested a meeting with the Quartzcom manager upon his return to Switzerland, and has asked him to provide any documentation Quartzcom has relevant to possible orders from Syrian entities. Boehler underlined that Swiss authorities are keeping an eye on the company, and said he thinks it will be possible to prevent the quartz oscillators from being exported, per USG concerns in reftel.
BEYER